

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### SUPERSTORM SANDY RELIEF AND DISASTER LOAN PROGRAM IM- PROVEMENT ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM COLE**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 208. Again, I want to again thank and recognize the support and assistance of both Chairman CHABOT and Ranking Member VELÁZQUEZ for including back in July my legislation, H.R. 2397, the Tornado Family Safety Act of 2015 as part of this legislation.

The Small Business Administration is currently afforded the authority to issue physical disaster loans for 120 percent of the value of property destroyed but not covered by insurance. The purpose of the additional 20 percent is so that individuals and business can modify structures to reduce damage from future disasters. In Oklahoma, the threat of tornadoes is ongoing, and we are always in between tornadoes. Planning is essential in order to mitigate against damage and loss of life. This is why the legislation I introduced, The Tornado Family Safety Act of 2015, was included in the House bill in July.

This section would allow those affected by disasters to use SBA disaster loans to build safe rooms as a mitigating measure against future similar disasters. It reinforces the intent of Congress that already exists in statute—The SBA should already be including the construction of safe rooms as a use for physical disaster loans because it is mitigating measure. The SBA's existing interpretation of existing language in the Small Business Act is incorrect.

Because of misinterpretation of this section previously, the SBA should now understand that physical disaster loans can also be used for other types of storm shelters as well, including, but not limited to structures that protect occupants from not only tornadoes, but from other natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods and wildfires.

The Senate Amendment makes modifications to the House-passed bill. Specifically, it requires safe rooms or similar storm shelters eligible for disaster loans under the bill to be constructed according to applicable standards issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

It is important to note that loans may not be used to upgrade homes or make additions unless as required by local building codes and secondary or vacation homes are not eligible for these loans. The SBA does not duplicate insurance claim payments. Generally, loans are made over 30 years and interest rates are not more than 4 percent for those cannot obtain credit elsewhere and for those that can obtain alternative credit, the rate does not exceed 8 percent for the loan.

While local and state governments have an obligation to meet the increase in shelter de-

mand, the construction of the shelters is expensive. Under guidelines from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the International Code Council (ICC), a safe room should withstand 250 mph winds and the impact of a 15-pound plank hitting a wall at 100 mph, according to the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety.

Safe rooms designed to the FEMA and ICC standards are recommended for both tornadoes and hurricanes. For individual homes, a safe room could range anywhere from \$3,000 to \$12,000.

For anyone who has experienced Mother Nature's most indiscriminate and unpredictable tenors, you can truly understand the extent to which they devastate lives and property.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I support the Senate amendment which makes minor modifications to language in the House-passed bill and adds provisions of S. 1470, the Recovery Improvements for Small Entities (RISE) After Disaster Act of 2015, to the House-passed version.

As I have stated before on the floor of the House, I hope every Member reflects on the situation of our fellow Americans during a time of crisis or disaster. While we may hope that our communities remain peaceful and safe from crisis; we certainly must support those that do not escape such natural and man-made calamities.

### EQUITY IN GOVERNMENT COMPENSATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support the Equity in Government Compensation Act.

This bill is based on legislation I authored which passed out of the House Financial Services Committee by a vote of 57 to 1 earlier this year. Similar text was approved by the Senate unanimously.

This legislation will eliminate multi-million dollar salaries for the CEOs of taxpayer-bailed out and taxpayer-backed Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, payouts that are an affront to the American people.

To the naysayers that claim that the GSEs have already "repaid" the taxpayers for their bailouts, I asked Treasury Secretary Jack Lew about this very theory.

He responded clearly that that "the risk [for Fannie and Freddie] is being borne by taxpayers on an ongoing basis and the conservatorship is not over."

The quantifiable toll taken by the financial crisis and the GSEs' actions on the American people is staggering: over 4 million Americans lost their homes; 8.8 million Americans lost their jobs; and \$19.2 trillion was lost in household wealth.

We have a duty and obligation to our constituents to protect them from a return to the

GSEs' pre-crisis model of private gains and public losses.

To those who discuss the need for GSE reform during debate of this bill, I say: I agree with you that it's time to put our housing system on a firmer foundation. I will put my record in support of reforming the GSEs up against that of any Member of Congress.

The status quo of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac dominating 90% of the secondary mortgage market is unsustainable.

My ultimate goal is still comprehensive housing finance reform that brings private capital into the system to eliminate the boom-and-bust cycle that wreaked havoc on the American economy; a task that takes on all the more urgency as Fannie and Freddie slip into the red and invite new taxpayer bailouts.

However, this bill is about CEO pay today at the GSEs, not what we want them to look like tomorrow.

Four million dollar a year salaries at the GSEs are simply symptoms of a disease. While we work on finding a cure, we should treat the patient. This bill will do just that.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for his leadership on this issue as Chairman of the Financial Services Committee, the gentleman from New Jersey for his support on this bill, and the senior Senator from Louisiana for his quick action.

### RECOGNIZING WORLD WAR II VET- ERAN LEO BATES OF BANGOR TOWNSHIP, MI

**HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing World War II Veteran Leo Bates of the 93rd Bombardment Group.

Mr. Bates joined the United States Army Air Corps in 1942, shortly after his graduation from high school. He served valiantly for three years as a radio operator, where he flew 30 missions across Europe. It is my honor to recognize the veterans of World War II and their families for their patriotism and sacrifice.

While this Veterans Day presents a clear opportunity to remember the sacrifices of our veterans, I want to make sure our nation does not forget their exemplary commitment to service and democracy. Mr. Bates shares this passion, which he incorporates by crafting and selling beautiful walking sticks to support fellow veterans. Along with his walking sticks come some incredible war stories, which he plans to share at Bay Area nursing homes this Veterans Day.

It is my honor to represent many of the fine men and women who served our country, such as Leo Bates, and my duty to respectfully preserve their memories with the same dedication with which these veterans defended our freedoms.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud all American veterans, and particularly Leo Bates and extend my deepest appreciation to them for their years of service to our great country.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS.  
JUDITH DAVIS WHITACRE

HON. SUZAN K. DeIBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of my aunt, Mrs. Judith Davis Whitacre.

Judy was born on today's date in 1936 in Cleveland, Ohio—the third daughter of Ruth and Powell Davis. She passed away on Thursday, October 29.

She was a loving mother, grandmother, and wife, and she constantly placed people at the top of her priority list.

Through her life, she was a Head Start volunteer teacher, Northwest Opportunity Center volunteer driver, Dryden School PTA volunteer tutor, Cub Scout Den Leader & coordinator for Pack 129, and volunteer at the homeless shelter PADs.

She also gladly helped out at church. Whether as church school teacher, couples group presidents with Jock, Elder, kitchen coordinator, or hand bell choir member, Judy was always willing to spend her time serving others.

She enjoyed sailing, crafts, and traveling, but most of all she loved people. Judy will be remembered for putting others before herself and as a committed volunteer whose dedication has touched so many in her community. My heart goes out to Jock, Harold, and Tammy, Gregory and Kathleen, and their kids.

RECOGNIZING PATRICIA "PATTY"  
GARBARINO AS BUSINESSWOMAN  
OF THE YEAR

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Patricia "Patty" Garbarino, who was chosen by the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce as the Women of Industry Business Leader for 2015. As President of the Marin Sanitary Service (MSS), Ms. Garbarino's business acumen, institutional knowledge, and commitment to conservation have impacted tens of thousands of lives in Marin County.

Ms. Garbarino has been a role model for women in our community, successfully running her family business in a traditionally male-dominated industry. Founded in 1948, MSS today employs three generations of Garbarinos, and serves more than 30,000 residential and commercial clients in San Rafael and surrounding areas. Along with their curbside service, the company accepts and processes hazardous and non-hazardous materials on-site, and has been an industry leader for recycling programs nationwide. Today, MSS recycles nearly three-quarters of the waste it collects, in large part due to Ms. Garbarino's oversight.

Ms. Garbarino's savvy leadership and environmental stewardship have made a lasting impact in Marin County. Not only does she manage MSS with intelligence and integrity, but she continues to be an active and valued member of our community. Ms. Garbarino has served on the Marin County Planning Commission, Marin County Office of Education Board, and Marin Conservation League board, among others, and continues to exemplify citizenship and compassion with her dedication to our community.

Mr. Speaker, Patty Garbarino's impressive accomplishments and leadership have left a lasting impact in San Rafael and beyond. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to her on this recognition.

RECOGNIZING MS. ELIZABETH  
HUCKABONE FOR HER OUT-  
STANDING COMMITMENT TO THE  
BUFFALO COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Ms. Elizabeth Huckabone on her retirement after serving 39 years as President and Chief Executive Officer of Belmont Housing Resources of Western New York. Ms. Huckabone dedicated her career to improving the lives of those less fortunate in her community.

Her strong commitment to ensuring access to affordable housing in the city of Buffalo as well as Erie County led to her role as one of the co-founders of Belmont Housing Resources of Western New York. Since 1977, Belmont has offered more than one hundred thousand low-income households critical rental assistance. Under Ms. Huckabone's leadership, Belmont has expanded its services over the decades to include management and development of affordable rental housing properties, as well as counsel on tenants' rights, homeownership, and mortgage default mitigation.

A graduate of the State University of New York College at Buffalo, Ms. Huckabone was previously a director of the Erie County Fair Housing Partnership, National Leased Housing Association and the Elmwood Franklin School. Ms. Huckabone's dedication and determination has been recognized as a recipient of the National Association of Home Builders Property Manager Merit Award and the National Conference for Community and Justice Award. Most recently and deservedly so, this tireless champion of fair housing was awarded the 2015 LISC Buffalo Community Builder Award in recognition of her remarkable career.

I am pleased to add my congratulations on her retirement and deep appreciation for her significant contributions as family, friends and colleagues gather together on November 23 to honor Elizabeth Huckabone's visionary leadership. It is anticipated that in her unassuming way, she will acknowledge Belmont's dedicated and talented staff, its inclusive culture, and the many community collaborations forged in order to increase the agency's impact on behalf of the people it serves. But for all who know her, admire her and will miss her, we simply say thank you for all you have done to

help those in need to find a place to call home.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize Ms. Elizabeth Huckabone. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Ms. Huckabone for her selfless commitment to public service. Her desire to build a better future for Buffalo has uplifted countless families in need and underscores the compassion held deeply by Western New Yorkers.

HONORING PASTOR LARRY  
THOMPSON

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pastor Larry Thompson for his 21 years of excellence as the pastor of the First Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale and his dedication to his community.

Pastor Thompson is the longest serving pastor at the First Baptist Church, and his commitment to his congregation and community is commendable. The congregation of the First Baptist Church has become more diverse during his tenure, which is a lasting legacy for the community. He has inspired people around the world by broadcasting his services online. His sermons have been viewed in more than 90 countries and are translated into Creole, Spanish, Portuguese, and Romanian.

In honor of his retirement and years of service to his community, I am pleased to recognize Pastor Thompson and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING AURORA CHIEF OF POLICE  
GREGORY THOMAS UPON  
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Chief Gregory Thomas of the Aurora Police Department. With a long and illustrious career serving the citizens of Aurora and the community, starting as a cadet in 1978 and culminating in Chief of Police in 2008, Chief Thomas has distinguished himself as a valuable and dedicated member of the Aurora community.

Chief Thomas has had a prestigious and long career, having worked in the Patrol Division, Criminal Investigation Division, and Administrative Services Division of the Aurora Police Department. Chief Thomas was assigned to the Field Training Program, Special Response Team, Employee Review Board, and Investigative Deadly Force Team.

As Chief of Police, Chief Thomas presided over a vast reduction in crime throughout the city and was always available to discuss matters with the community. Over the course of his career, Chief Thomas has received numerous awards including the Kendall County Medal of Valor, the Exchange Club of Aurora Police Officer of the Year, and has been nominated as the Kane County Officer of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Chief Gregory Thomas's exemplary service to the people of Aurora and congratulating him on a prominent career.

**NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR MEMORIAL HERMANN KATY HOSPITAL**

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital in Katy, Texas for earning national recognition for its excellent surgical patient care.

Memorial Hermann Katy was one of three Texas hospitals and one of 52 hospitals nationwide to earn meritorious rankings from the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP). Hospitals across the country are assessed based on how well they protect and care for surgical patients. This ranking reflects their commitment to practicing high-quality care, patient safety, and surgical care improvements. Memorial Hermann Katy provides its community with peace of mind should a medical emergency arise.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Memorial Hermann Katy. Thank you for putting patient safety above all else.

**CONGRATULATING MR. PATRICK WHALEN FOR HIS DEDICATION TO THE BUFFALO NIAGARA MEDICAL CAMPUS AND WESTERN NEW YORK**

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize and honor Mr. Patrick Whalen as he steps down as the Chief Operating Officer of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. A driving force in Buffalo's transformation, Mr. Whalen has helped ignite the renaissance underway in Western New York.

Mr. Whalen has played a crucial role in the development of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus since 2008. As COO, Mr. Whalen demonstrated a true collaborative spirit in partnering with top medical, clinical, and research institutions and with the Fruit Belt and Allentown neighborhoods, the City of Buffalo and Erie County to establish world-class healthcare facilities. His leadership and organizational abilities most recently included his role as Conference Chair at the 2015 MedTech Association conference held in Buffalo.

Mr. Whalen has traveled throughout the world to deliver remarks and share his vision at professional conferences and talks. His expertise is especially welcomed by our partners to the north, where Mr. Whalen was a founding member of the Canadian/American Border Trade Alliance and his efforts were recognized with the Canadian Consulate Ambassador Award. Mr. Whalen's deep understanding of

the value of a strong partnership with Canada came from decades of private sector experience and entrepreneurship including the founding of Fulfillment Systems International. As President and CEO, he pioneered the concept of consolidated cross-border shipping that transformed the international distribution industry.

Mr. Whalen's commitment to Western New York goes well beyond his contributions to the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus and his productive relationship with Canada. Mr. Whalen consistently demonstrates his passion for serving the community through humanitarian organizations and service. He previously sat on the Board of Directors of the Greater Buffalo Chapter of the American Red Cross and the Rotary Club of Buffalo. In recognition of his dedicated service, Mr. Whalen was presented with the University at Buffalo School of Management Community Service Award.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize Mr. Patrick Whalen as his family, friends and colleagues will gather on November 18 in appreciation for all he has accomplished and to wish him continued success in future endeavors. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Whalen for his energetic passion, his grassroots and international perspective and his innovative contributions to his city and his country. His dedication to the growth and revitalization of Western New York community continue to heighten Buffalo's reputation and improve the health and well-being of all.

**CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWNSVILLE COFFEE SHOP #2**

**HON. FILEMON VELA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Jovita Chase as she celebrates the 40th anniversary of her restaurant, Brownsville Coffee Shop #2.

For four decades, Jovita has dedicated her life to serving residents of Brownsville, Texas delicious, well-priced meals. Her restaurant, which features food that is made from scratch, is a favorite of the Brownsville Police Department, the Cameron County Sheriff's Office, teachers, local elected officials and those seeking a hearty meal in a comfortable, homey environment. The restaurant's specialties include homemade flour tortillas and gorditas.

Brownsville Coffee Shop #2 was established in 1964 by Jovita's mother, Rafaela Alviar, who opened several coffee shops in downtown Brownsville. After Rafaela passed away, Jovita and her brother, Andres, took over management of these local institutions. Andres continues to run Brownsville Coffee Shop #1, which has been in business for 42 years.

In addition to providing a gathering place for the community, Jovita supports higher education by awarding scholarship funds to local students in honor of her mother. She also gives back by hosting a monthly meal for the Good Neighbor Settlement House, and she not only provides her employees with a paycheck but also helps them develop a strong work ethic and leadership skills.

Our community benefits greatly from institutions like the Brownsville Coffee Shop #2. Jovita Chase and her restaurant have had a lasting, positive impact on South Texas, and I rise today to share my congratulations along with those of her customers and employees.

**SAL QUARTARARO**

**HON. LEE M. ZELDIN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the service of Sal Quartararo.

On December 7, 1941, Salvatore (Sal) Quartararo, and his three brothers and two sisters, the children of Anna and Peter who immigrated to the U.S. from Italy in the 1890s, sat in their lower east side Manhattan apartment as President Roosevelt's fateful words came over the radio. The Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbor, and for Sal and his family, life was about to change. One by one, Sal and his brothers; Ignatius, Liborio (Larry), and Philip (Phil) entered military service; his brothers in the Army and Army Air Corps, and Sal in the Navy.

The brothers ensured their family was well represented in this two front war. Ignatius served in the infantry as a Private Tech Five stationed in Italy, Larry in the Army Air Corps as an aerial photographer in the Pacific, Phil a Sergeant and cook in the Army and at sea, Sal served on board the USS *Sioux*, an Auxiliary Tug (ATF-75) as a Radio Man Second Class. During his time in the South Pacific, Sal saw action in both Okinawa and Iwo Jima.

With four sons now serving overseas, their father Peter proudly displayed four American flags on the checker cab he drove in Manhattan. Fortunately, through God's grace, Ignatius, Larry, Phil, and Sal would all return home safely. They each married, led productive lives, raised wonderful families and like most, moved to the suburbs—Sal and his family relocated to Elmont, and later Kings Park, Long Island.

Now, 64 years later, we recognize Sal Quartararo and his three brothers, Ignatius, Larry and Phil for serving honorably and concurrently during World War II. The brothers' dedication and bravery during their service, work ethic and family values they demonstrated upon their return home are a tribute to the "Greatest Generation".

**HONORING REV. DR. JEFFERY R. WHEELER**

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a spiritual leader in the Mount Vernon community, Reverend Dr. Jeffery R. Wheeler, who has led, as Pastor the Mt. Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church congregation in Mount Vernon, NY with great distinction and integrity.

Originally born and raised in Mount Vernon, Reverend Wheeler received his license to the ministry in 1998 and was ordained in 1999 at the Hunter Hills First Baptist Church in Atlanta,

Georgia. In 2006, Rev. Wheeler relocated back to New York and was consecrated and elevated to the office of Ordained Traveling Elder in the New York–Washington Annual Conference of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church under the auspices of Senior Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt, Jr., Presiding Prelate.

After 20 years away from home, in July of 2011 Reverend Wheeler returned home to Mt. Vernon, NY to pastor where he grew up, worshipped with his family, and began in ministry, at Mount Calvary Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Reverend Wheeler also began serving as the Director of the New York–New England Ministry to Men. Reverend Wheeler has served in a multitude of capacities within the ministry, including: Staff Ministerial Coordinator accountable for 13 staff ministers, Pastor of Praise & Worship and Ministerial Liaison for the Music Department, Singles Ministry and Family Enrichment Ministry. He has also traveled extensively abroad to conduct Preaching Revivals & Gospel Music Workshops in Oslo, Norway, Stockholm, Sweden, Brighton and London, England, South Africa, and Tokyo, Japan.

A scholar, Reverend Wheeler earned his Masters of Religious Studies from Yale University, in New Haven and his Masters of Theology Degree and Doctorate of Divinity Degree from the Huger Theological Institute/Lighthouse Seminary New York, NY. In December 2013, The Abundant Life Theological Seminary conferred a second Doctorate of Divinity Degree upon Reverend Wheeler.

This year, Mt. Calvary C.M.E. is holding a luncheon in Reverend Wheeler's honor celebrating his years as Pastor. Congratulations to Reverend Wheeler on this great honor.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes on Monday, November 16, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on roll call vote 626, “nay” on roll call vote 627, “yea” on roll call vote 628, and “yea” on roll call vote 629.

HONORING MAYOR OF HARLINGEN,  
TEXAS CHRIS BOSWELL ON RE-  
CEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED  
CITIZEN AWARD

#### HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harlingen, Texas Mayor Chris Boswell who has been awarded the Distinguished Citizen Award by the Rio Grande Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Each year the Boy Scouts of America recognize a noteworthy and extraordinary leader in the Rio Grande Valley community. The

award is presented to an individual in honor of their service to the community, and honorees are recognized for their efforts to inspire young people to be leaders.

Chris Boswell was first elected Mayor of Harlingen in May 2007 and was re-elected in 2010 and 2013. Prior to being Mayor, he served twice as president of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council. He was also president of the Cameron County Bar Association.

Mayor Boswell served 10 years as a Cubmaster and 7 years as an Assistant Scoutmaster. His leadership culminated in his serving as president of the Rio Grande Council and later as President of Area 2 which governs 11 scout councils in Texas and Louisiana.

Harlingen and the entire Rio Grande Valley have benefitted greatly from his leadership, vision and expertise, and I rise today to congratulate Mayor Chris Boswell on this well-deserved honor.

IN HONOR OF COY THOMPSON'S  
PURPLE HEART PINNING CER-  
EMONY

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Purple Heart pinning ceremony for United States Army Sergeant Coy Thompson of North Carolina's 8th Congressional District. It is an honor to extend these remarks today and to thank Sergeant Thompson for his brave and selfless service to our nation.

Sergeant Thompson served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War with honor and distinction through his support of ground forces during aerial missions. During the Tet Offensive, Sergeant Thompson was wounded in the line of duty after being hit with fragments of shrapnel from a near-by explosion. After returning to the United States, Sergeant Thompson was awarded with the Air Medal for his actions in support of operations against the enemy. Later, Sergeant Thompson was awarded the Bronze and Silver Stars, as well as the Purple Heart.

On Sunday, November 8, 2015, a special ceremony was held at the Enochville Church of God in Kannapolis, North Carolina to celebrate Sergeant Thompson and recognize him for his valor and service to our nation. Sergeant Thompson was surrounded by family and friends who gathered to witness this special ceremony in which he was pinned with his many medals. Fellow service members were also present and told stories of Sergeant Thompson's courage and love for our country.

I am overjoyed that the Marine Corps League of Cabarrus County and his community recognized Sergeant Thompson for his valiant actions during the Vietnam War. The men and women in uniform who have answered the call to defend our nation represent the best our country has to offer and they deserve our continued admiration. Events like this special ceremony serve as a reminder

that we must never take their service and sacrifice for granted, and that we as a nation must continually find ways to recognize these heroic patriots for their unparalleled dedication to our freedom.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in once again commemorating this very special occasion, and to thank United States Army Sergeant Coy Thompson for his service and dedication to our country.

#### WORLD DAY OF ROAD SAFETY REMEMBRANCE

#### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the 20th Anniversary of the World Day of Road Safety Remembrance.

Despite greater awareness of the dangers associated with traveling on the world's roads today and improvements in road safety, more than a million people die each year as a result of road crashes. These crashes remain the single greatest cause of death for healthy Americans abroad. In the U.S., more than 30,000 die in crashes, while more than 2 million are injured annually.

The good news is that the number of road deaths is stabilizing even though the number of motor vehicles worldwide has increased. According to the World Health Organization, in the last three years, 79 countries have seen a decrease in the absolute number of traffic fatalities.

The bad news is that road users around the world are unequally protected. The risk of dying in a road traffic crash still depends, in great part, on where people live and how they move around. A big gap still separates high income countries from low and middle income ones where 90% of road traffic deaths occur in spite of having just 54% of the world's vehicles. Europe has the lowest death rates per capita. Africa has the highest.

Though road safety strategies are saving lives, the pace of change is too slow. More countries are acting on road safety, but further action is required. In its recent report “Improving Global Road Safety,” WHO has called for all new roads to be constructed to at least a 3 Star safety standard, using the International Road Assessment Program methodology. Initiatives will be presented this week among government officials, NGOs and international organizations during the 2nd Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety in Brasilia, which coincides with the 20th anniversary of observing the World Day of Remembrance. Among the groups in attendance will be the Association for Safe International Road Travel. Since its founding, ASIRT has been a leading and powerful advocate in support of global road safety.

On this World Day of Remembrance, we are reminded of how much progress has been made regarding road safety and how far we still need to go. I encourage my colleagues and the public to reflect on the importance of the task that lies ahead and to commit themselves to the work of preventing the needless deaths caused by road crashes.

HONORING CHIEF CARLOS  
CABRERA

**HON. LOIS FRANKEL**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fire Chief Carlos Cabrera for his 26 years of excellence in the West Palm Beach Fire Department and his dedication to protecting his community. West Palm Beach is a safer place thanks to him.

Chief Cabrera, the first Hispanic fire department chief in West Palm Beach, had a career of outstanding achievement and service. During the course of his career Chief Cabrera extinguished hundreds of fires, saved many lives, and even delivered seven babies.

In honor of his retirement and years of service to his community, I am pleased to recognize Chief Cabrera and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

WASHINGTON, D.C., CELEBRATING  
A CAPITOL HILL EXHIBIT BY  
THE SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER  
AND UNESCO

**HON. KAREN BASS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize and congratulate the Simon Wiesenthal Center and its Museum of Tolerance for commitment to leadership in promoting tolerance worldwide. I am proud to represent these important institutions as part of California's 37th Congressional District. Located in Los Angeles, they have a worldwide mission.

Together with UNESCO, the Wiesenthal Center has created a traveling exhibition, opening today in Washington, D.C., entitled Book. People. Land.: The 3,500 Year Relationship Between the Jewish People and the Holy Land. This exhibit, sponsored by the U.S., Canada and Israel, aims to highlight the Jewish values of scholarship, human dignity and justice, and links them through history to the Jewish homeland.

My friends and fellow Foreign Affairs Committee members, Chair ED ROYCE and Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL, cooperated in arranging this Capitol Hill opening. Book. People. Land. will soon travel to Israel's Knesset and Vatican City under the supervision of its Project Director, Wiesenthal Center Associate Dean Rabbi Abraham Cooper.

As the public and invited guests celebrate this partnership with UNESCO, the opening of this exhibit, and the Wiesenthal Center's message of human dignity, I am proud to recognize all those involved in this important undertaking.

COMMEMORATING THE BRIDGE  
DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR MR.  
ALLEN T. SMALL

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Allen Thurman Small and to commemorate the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Bridge Dedication ceremony in his honor. This is a fitting dedication for a man who gave so much to the City of Concord and the state of North Carolina.

Up until the day he tragically passed in 2006, Mr. Small was a public servant who deeply cared about his community. He served as a member of the Concord City Council from 1997 through 2006 and spent more than three decades in public education. During his public education career, Mr. Small was an educator and principal at three different Concord-area schools: Wolf Meadow Elementary School, Coltrane-Webb Elementary School, and Logan High School. Mr. Small, who was the first African-American to serve as principal of a desegregated school in Concord, was committed to ensuring every student received a high quality education that prepared them to be engaged citizens of the community.

During his tenure on the city council, Mr. Small dedicated his time and resources toward bringing jobs back to Concord and growing the city's economy, all in the hopes of leaving the children he devoted so much of his life to with a better future than he ever had. Following his passing, Mr. Small's city council seat has been occupied by his wife, Ella Mae, who has served the City of Concord with honor and distinction, and has continued to build upon Mr. Small's legacy as a dedicated public servant.

On Monday, November 9th, the North Carolina Department of Transportation held a bridge dedication ceremony for Mr. Small in his beloved City of Concord. The "Allen T. Small Bridge" is located on Cabarrus Avenue West over the Norfolk Southern Railroad, and serves as a gateway in to the heart of downtown Concord.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in commemorating the life of Mr. Allen Thurman Small for his service to the Concord community and his commitment to bettering the lives of everyone in his community, particularly those of our area's young students.

HONORING JAMES CORRIVEAU ON  
HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. James Corriveau, the Public Works Director, Supervisory General Engineer at Fort Drum, New York.

Mr. James Corriveau has dedicated 39 years of public service to our great nation with a combined Active Duty, Reserve Component and Federal Civil Service. Mr. Corriveau first joined the Army as an Engineer in 1974. He began working at Fort Drum in 1978 and has

held multiple positions on post, all to betterment of the Army, the installation and our soldiers assigned to the 10th Mountain Division.

Mr. Corriveau served our nation proudly as an active duty Army Engineer Officer. Following his active duty and Army Reserve careers he continued his call to serve our brave North Country soldiers and their families as a true civil servant. Throughout his esteemed career at Fort Drum he wore many hats, including Civil Engineer, Chief of Operations and Maintenance, Chief of Business Operations, Deputy Director of Public Works, and the Residential Communities Initiative Program Manager. Mr. Corriveau played an integral role in the internal operations and base expansion at Fort Drum, an essential component for the livelihood for our servicemembers, their loved ones, and also the needs of our U.S. Military training and capabilities.

Mr. James Corriveau is the recipient of numerous awards including the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service, which is the highest award granted to Army civilian personnel and was most deserved by Mr. Corriveau for his selfless and resolute works. During his time in both military and civilian service, Mr. Corriveau has also been awarded the Special Act Award, the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, the Meritorious Civilian Service Award, and the Superior Civilian Service Award.

On this day, I want to take a moment to thank Mr. James Corriveau for his years of service to our nation. James, congratulations on your retirement . . . you are a true patriot and the North Country community thanks you for making this your home. Your humble leadership and key knowledge will be missed by many.

RECOGNIZING THE BRAVE ACTIONS OF SEVEN OFFICERS OF  
THE AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Greg Christoffel, Ed Doepel, Nick Gartner, Jeff Hahn, Erik Swastek, Josh Sullivan and Chris Coronado of the Aurora Police.

For their efforts in saving the life of 14 year old Annie Prosser in 2013, these brave men were awarded the U.S. Marshals' Law Enforcement Officer of the Year awards. Out of the more than 2,500 nominees for the award, only 50 were chosen and it is a matter of great pride and honor that officers from the Eleventh District were chosen among this elite group.

The rescue of Ms. Prosser was conducted in water approximately six feet deep and at a temperature below freezing, after the car she was riding in was found overturned in a pond in Aurora, Illinois. These officers just happened to be nearby, investigating a separate incident. When they saw the danger Ms. Prosser was in, they went above and beyond the call of duty and dove right in to rescue her. This heroic action exemplifies the Aurora Police Department's strong commitment to serving our community and to their character as public servants.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in rising in recognition of the honor bestowed upon these brave officers.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT J.  
BEALL

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Dr. Robert J. Beall for his service to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the indelible mark he has made in the CF community and in the world of health and medicine over the past several decades.

Dr. Beall announced on October 1, 2015 that he is stepping down as Chief Executive Officer of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, a role he has held for more than 20 years. Under Dr. Beall's leadership, the CF Foundation has become known for its pioneering and successful approach to supporting biomedical research and developing lifesaving treatments for those with cystic fibrosis.

When Dr. Beall joined the Foundation in 1980, the median predicted age of survival for a person with the disease was 18 years of age—today it is more than 40 years. For the first time in history, over half of the people living with CF are above 18 years of age, and therefore cystic fibrosis is no longer a pediatric disease.

As a proud parent of a wonderful adult daughter with cystic fibrosis, I am personally thankful for Dr. Beall's leadership in this community. His tireless efforts have led this Foundation and the cystic fibrosis research community to remarkable successes in the development of innovative new therapies and dramatic improvement in the quality of life for those with CF.

Through his innovation and leadership, Dr. Beall put the cystic fibrosis community on the road to success, and I have no doubt that his dedication over the past two decades has drastically accelerated our search for a life altering cure for CF patients.

I am honored to serve as Co-Chair of the Congressional Cystic Fibrosis Caucus alongside Congressman JIM MCGOVERN of Massachusetts, and I look forward to continuing the legacy of Dr. Beall through our work the CF community as well as fellow leaders in Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 627 I was not able to vote due to a medical procedure.

Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

HONORING MICHAEL MCKINNON ON  
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize retired U.S. Army Lieutenant Colonel Michael McKinnon, the current Deputy to the Garrison Commander at Fort Drum, New York.

Lieutenant Colonel Michael McKinnon has spent his life dedicated to serving and protecting our national security and freedoms, with a combined 37 years of public service. Lt. Col. McKinnon served his nation honorably and with distinction for 23 years of active duty service. After retirement from the U.S. Army, Lt. Col. McKinnon has continued to serve our nation as a civil servant for over 14 years.

Lieutenant Colonel McKinnon's first introduction to Fort Drum was with the 2nd Brigade as the Logistics Officer. Lt. Col. McKinnon was then assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 14th Infantry as the Battalion Executive Officer and served with them in Somalia during Operation Restore Hope. In 1995, after a stint in Kansas, Lieutenant Colonel McKinnon returned to the 10th Mountain Division where he served as Deputy Chief of Staff, Deputy G-3 and Director of Logistics.

As an army officer, Lieutenant Colonel McKinnon received the Legion of Merit, six Meritorious Service Medals, five Army Commendation Medals, three Army Achievement Medals, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, as well as the Expert Infantry, Ranger Tab and Parachutist and Air Assault badges.

Following Lieutenant Colonel Mike McKinnon's retirement from the active army, he returned to the North Country and to Fort Drum where he has served our community proudly as the Deputy to the Garrison Commander. As a civil servant, Lieutenant Colonel McKinnon received the Superior Civilian Service Award and the Commander's Award for Civilian Service.

It is apparent Mike has led the efforts for our servicemembers within the North Country and over the years has played an instrumental role in supporting soldiers, civilians, families, Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division. The recipient of multiple awards and decorations, Lieutenant Colonel McKinnon embodies all the qualities of a selfless hero, who has answered the call to serve.

Lieutenant Colonel McKinnon, congratulations on your years of service to our great nation and your retirement. Your guidance and expertise will truly be missed at Fort Drum and by our North Country community.

IN HONOR OF KRUSHI PATEL AND  
HER WINNING SUBMISSION TO  
THE 2015 VETERANS DAY ESSAY  
CONTEST FROM NEW YORK'S  
14TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winner of the 2015 Veterans

Day essay contest from New York's 14th Congressional District. Krushi Patel, a student from I.S. 61 in Corona, Queens submitted the winning essay on the topic, "What Veterans Day Means To Me." Krushi's essay reads as follows:

Veterans, whether they are in the army, navy, or marines, put their lives at stake for the safety and security of others. These people spend day and night away from those they love, just so that we can be close to those we love. They are on the border and in battle so that we can live a life with peace and freedom. They do so much for us, that it would be impossible to pay them back. That is why we should honor all veterans for their heroism and determination on Veterans Day. We should tell them that we deeply appreciate the sacrifices they took to keep us and our country safe; that they will always have a special place in our hearts. It's not easy to be away from your family, for months and years at a time. The thought of it brings tears in our eyes. However, for the security and honor of our nation, they put their families one step behind. These people do what may seem unimaginable for most people. These people volunteer themselves for the nation they were born in. That is why we salute them.

Last year, on December, 15, 2014, my class went to a Veterans' Organization. We met various former soldiers from wars like World War II and the Vietnamese War. These people were so inspiring. They told stories. These people were a primary source of these historic wars. We got to learn from people who had been eyewitnesses. They became idols to me. They had fought for our country with persistence and bravery. However, they didn't ask for anything in return. They had no stove or TV. These people were so delighted to see us. We sang Christmas carols. We didn't really want to leave. We were years apart in age, but that didn't get in the way of us having a good time.

Veterans Day is a time to thank all former and current veterans, a time to thank them for fighting for our freedom and peace. It's a day when I spend some of my time to respect and look up to those who put themselves in danger for the benefit of strangers. That is why we tell them that they are true heroes. Veterans fought for peace and freedom in this world. We must thank and salute these people. Veterans Day is a time to be proud of being an American.

Veterans Day is about the love and devotion you have for the country that you are willing to cut your life short for it. The respect veterans have for our country and its people is why they are willing to leave their family behind for service. The love that burns inside of them for this nation is so great. "Some people live an entire lifetime and wonder if they have ever made a difference in the world, but the Marines don't have that problem."—Ronald Reagan

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately on November 16, 2015, I missed roll call vote no. 626. Had I been present, I would have

voted "nay" on final passage of Keep the Promise Act of 2015, H.R. 308.

# METHODIST SUGAR LAND MAKES THE GRADE

## HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a great hospital in my backyard, Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, for once again getting an "A" grade for patient safety in the most recent Hospital Safety Score ratings.

Twice a year, hospitals across the country are rated based on how well they protect patients while they're under the hospital's care. Houston Methodist Sugar Land was among less than one-third of hospitals to earn an "A" grade. This grade reflects their commitment to patients through continual staff training and updated best practices. Methodist Sugar Land provides its community with peace of mind should a medical emergency arise.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Houston Methodist Sugar Land. Thank you for putting patient safety above all else.

# RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUNY EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE

## HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 25th Anniversary of the SUNY Empire State College located at Fort Drum and the 30th Anniversary of the College's participation in the SUNY North Country Consortium on October 21, 2015.

Since 1985, SUNY Empire State College has supported our nation's servicemembers, military spouses, dependents and our brave veterans. Soon after the 10th Mountain Division was reactivated at Fort Drum, SUNY partnered with other statewide and community organizations in order to serve those who protect our national security. SUNY College provides our specific North Country student population with access and support to high-quality public education.

SUNY Empire State College accepts academic credit for military training recommended by the American Council on Education in order to help reduce costs and accelerate the amount of time it takes to complete a degree for these service members. According to Military Times magazine, SUNY Empire State College is listed among the "Best for Vets: Colleges" and "Best for Vets: Business Schools".

Congratulations SUNY Empire State College on the 25th anniversary of your location at Fort Drum and for your 30 years of service to the veterans, soldiers, military spouses and dependents who serve and work in the North Country. I want to wish SUNY Empire State College continued success in educating this most deserving, nontraditional student population.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, November 16, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the day. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 626, the Keep the Promise Act.

I would have voted "yes" on Roll Call 627, the Dignified Interment of Our Veterans Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yes" on Roll Call 628, the Honor America's Guard-Reserve Retirees Act.

## ALBERT M. WOOLLEY

### HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Albert M. Woolley.

Staff Sergeant Albert M. Woolley was born on February 13, 1925, in Victoria, Texas. On November 17, 1942, at the age of 17, with his parent's consent, and alongside his cousins and friends, he enlisted to serve in World War II.

After completing the training for his military occupation specialty, motor vehicle maintenance, Albert was assigned to the 9th Army Air Corps and sent to England. At the age of 19, Albert took part in the heroic Invasion of Normandy, partaking in the 2nd wave and landing on Utah Beach. Albert recalls almost drowning when having to stand on the back of the landing craft and jumping into the tremendous waves with 60 pounds of equipment on his back. Sinking instantly, he was grabbed by another soldier, fortunately very tall, who pulled him up to the surface. Together, they swam to the shore where they were soon separated, never to see each other again. Advancing up Normandy Beach, Albert and his fellow soldiers victoriously combated a barrage of German machine gun and sniper fire strafing the shoreline.

Following the infamous D-Day landing, Albert served in the French Campaign supporting Allied Forces until being honorably discharged on November 10, 1945. After five years on American soil, Albert was recalled in 1950 to active service, in support of the Korean Conflict, remaining overseas until the Armistice. After returning home, he continued his service and received orders to Westhampton, New York in 1964, only to soon again be in the Pacific. In 1967, Albert was given orders to Danang, Vietnam, fighting in and surviving the TET Offensive of 1968.

In October 1977, Staff Sergeant Albert M. Woolley retired after 30 years of service. During this time, he received amongst numerous other decorations; two Air Force Longevity Service Awards, four Good Conduct Medals, and the Vietnam Campaign, Vietnam Service and French Campaign ribbons.

Albert M. Woolley, who has been married to his wife Victoria for 68 years, is the proud father of five children. Their family has now grown to include 16 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren. Albert has served both his country and family well through his hard work and great sacrifice.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent due to official business on Monday, November 16, 2015. On Roll Call Vote Number 626, on the bill H.R. 308, Keep the Promise, had I been present I would have voted No.

On Roll Call Vote Number 627, on H.R. 1338, the Dignified Interment of Our Veterans' Act of 2015, I would have voted Yea.

On Roll Call Vote Number 628, on H.R. 1384, the Honor America's Guard-Reserve Retirees Act, had I been present I would have voted Yea.

## HONORING JAMES J. VENERUSO

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a leader in my district, James J. Veneruso, who has been actively involved in a wide array of professional and community organizations for many years.

A former Adjunct professor at Iona College and the College of Mount Saint Vincent, Mr. Veneruso served as the Editor of the Delaware Corporate Law Review and the Westchester County Law Journal, the President of the John Marshall Honor Society, and was on the founding Board of Editors of the Pace Law Review. He is admitted to practice law in New York and Florida, and is now the managing partner of the law firm of Veneruso, Curto, Schwartz & Curto, LLP located in Yonkers, New York.

In addition to his professional developments, Mr. Veneruso serves on the Board of Trustees of Saint Joseph's Medical Center, as legal counsel and Board member of Habitat for Humanity of Westchester, and as a member of Yonkers Partners in Education, Inc., and the Italian American Forum. He currently serves on the Business Development Board of Sterling National bank, and actively served on the Board of the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation.

Mr. Veneruso lives in Yonkers with his wife, Lillian. They have three children and four grandchildren. The surrounding community has recognized and celebrated Mr. Veneruso's contributions to the area with countless honors. He has been recognized as the Most Socially Conscious Attorney by the Westchester County Bar Association and the Westchester Business Journal, and has received the "American Dream Award" by the Habitat for Humanity of Westchester.

This year Saint Joseph's Medical Center is honoring Mr. Veneruso with the 2015 Outstanding Service Award. I want to congratulate



Mr. Veneruso on this honor and thank him for his contributions to our community's continued growth and success.

# INTRODUCTION OF BRIDGE TO A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE ACT OF 2015

## HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to support the continued development of clean energy in the United States. The impacts of a changing climate are far-reaching, representing a threat not only to our ecosystems but to our national security as well. To help avoid the worst effects of carbon pollution, consumers must have a dependable supply of energy that is clean and renewable. That much of this energy—and many of the devices used to produce it—is American-made means that our country retains the innovation, export opportunities, and manufacturing jobs that are so important to a twenty-first century economy.

The Bridge to a Clean Energy Future Act of 2015 extends critical clean energy incentives to provide market certainty and to strengthen investment in renewable technologies. In doing this, it will support thousands of jobs in clean energy industries, advance U.S. manufacturing, and enable our transition to clean, renewable energy.

For example, this legislation extends the Production Tax Credit for wind energy through 2016, offering parity with the duration of the Investment Tax Credit enjoyed by solar energy investments, while also granting the solar industry access to credits at the start of a project's construction, as is currently available for the wind industry. The bill also provides a range of other important incentives, such as expanding the advanced energy project credit, which aids U.S. manufacturers across the clean energy industry.

Strengthening the finance environment for the construction and development of renewable energy installations not only will help us to combat climate change and diversify our energy market, it will also strengthen the U.S. economy by creating American jobs, by supporting American manufacturers, and encouraging American innovation. From a strong base at home, American clean energy firms are also able to export technologies around the world, creating new markets for American expertise.

This bill is more than fully offset by repealing incentives for fossil energy that are unnecessary and wasteful taxpayer giveaways to some of the most profitable companies in the world doing business in an industry that is a major contributor to climate change.

# RECOGNIZING AURORA ACTIONAIRES FOR FORTY YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

## HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Aurora Actionaires and the

forty years of community service they have dedicated to the City of Aurora, Illinois. The Aurora Actionaires is comprised of twenty-three African American women seeking to serve their community.

We should all be proud of the contributions these women have made to the community. With their motto, "We Care. We Act. We Serve." the Aurora Actionaires have assisted the elderly, donated to the needy, and provided college scholarships to many Aurora high school graduates.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the Aurora Actionaires and thanking these dedicated women for their service.

# ACKNOWLEDGING THE RETIRE- MENT OF BROWNSTOWN DEPUTY SUPERVISOR GREG MAHAR

## HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Greg Mahar, a community leader in southeast Michigan for decades. This month he will retire after twenty four years of service as Deputy Supervisor of Brownstown Township. Appointed to the role in 1992, Greg has supported and enjoyed the trust of three different township supervisors. His name is synonymous with Brownstown.

In 1967, almost 50 years ago, Greg began his career in public service. The young man that tirelessly organized his community block club would one day literally put Brownstown on the map. From promoting business by identifying Brownstown on Interstate 75 signage; to negotiating money-saving contracts to promoting access to a transparent local government, there are few major projects in Brownstown that Greg has not been critical to their success. Every resident of Brownstown Township has been impacted by his tireless efforts.

Greg has been a role model in this community because, as he puts it, helping people is just who he is. He has raised the funds for numerous local charities, and finds solutions for needs in the community that are not being met. Not only has he dedicated his time and resources to multiple efforts and programs, he even sacrificed his trademark mustache in support of a cure for leukemia. Now clean-shaven, Greg still serves as the go-to guy for anyone in the community who is trying to uplift their neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Mr. Greg Mahar for his twenty four years of service to Brownstown and his lasting impact on the Downriver communities. We thank him for his leadership, and wish him many years of happiness and success.

# THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DIS- TRICT OF COLUMBIA FEDERAL OFFICIALS RESIDENCY REQUIRE- MENT EQUALITY ACT OF 2015

## HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Federal Officials Residency Requirement Equality Act of 2015, a bill that would amend federal law to require certain officials who serve D.C. to actually live within its boundaries. In nearly every other jurisdiction in the United States, federal district court judges, U.S. Attorneys, and U.S. Marshals are required by federal law to reside within the jurisdictions where they have been appointed—but these same officials appointed to serve the people of the District are not bound by these same requirements. The only other jurisdictions where these officials are not required to live within their appointed jurisdictions are the Southern District of New York and the Eastern District of New York. However, this is because New York City is the only city in the country that is divided between two federal districts—but the District is not similarly situated. My bill would put D.C. on equal footing with almost every other jurisdiction by ensuring that our Marshals, judges, and U.S. attorney live among the residents they have been appointed to represent.

Clearly, the idea that these federal officials ought to live in the jurisdictions they serve is a significant one—which is why the residency requirement for other jurisdictions is enshrined in federal law. Yet, D.C. was exempt from this requirement based on the now-outdated notion that the District is too congested and small to house these appointed officials. The District of Columbia is a vibrant and bustling city with a diverse populace who deserve direct engagement on the part of its federal judges, U.S. attorney, and Marshals. My bill recognizes the fact that D.C. deserves the same type of community involvement by these federal officials as nearly every jurisdiction.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

# PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 628, I was not able to vote due to a medical procedure. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

# HONORING DR. PETER K. WAYNE

## HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a leader in my district, Dr. Peter K. Wayne, who has had an unquestionable impact on the health and well-being of our community for many years.



Born in Queens, NY, Dr. Wayne spent his childhood in Long Island, and after obtaining his Biochemical Sciences degree from Harvard College, he completed his seven-year MD–PhD degree at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx. Following additional training in internal medicine and gastroenterology, Dr. Wayne joined St. Josephs Medical Center in Yonkers, where he has treated countless residents from the neighborhood.

Beyond his service to our community through his medical practice, Dr. Wayne has served as President of the Medical Board, and has been serving as Chief of Gastroenterology for most of this millennium. In addition to his service on the boards of countless Gastrointestinal research groups and societies, Dr. Wayne has been recognized for his participation in clinical trials of drug therapies for hepatitis B and hepatitis C.

Dr. Wayne and his wife, Ellen Tremper, have four children, each contributing to their communities with the same vigor in their respective fields that Dr. Wayne has served ours. Dr. Wayne's passion for, and dedication to, his work is made clear in and out of the office. He advocates for bicycle safety, develops his personally-crafted electronic medical record program, and supports the St. Joseph's Endoscopy Unit, which hosts a clinic for the uninsured and underinsured to be evaluated by a staff of board-certified endoscopists.

This year, St. Josephs Medical Center is honoring Dr. Peter Wayne with the 2015 Outstanding Service Award. I want to congratulate Dr. Wayne on this honor and thank him for his years of dedicated service to our community.

IN HONOR OF 100 SEASONS OF  
SHSU BEARKAT FOOTBALL

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, in Texas, fall means football, and this fall marks a special football milestone for Sam Houston State University. Our Bearkats are celebrating 100 seasons of hard fought contests on the college football gridiron.

What happens at Elliot T. Bowers Stadium today has its roots in a cotton patch in the outfield of Joseph Pritchett Field in Huntsville, Texas. On October 6, 1912 the team from Sam Houston Teachers College faced off against a "pugnacious", as one observer remarked, Rice Institute to begin the inaugural season of Sam Houston football. Since then, football has been a continuous sport at Sam Houston, except for the war years—1918, during World War I, and 1943, 1944 and 1945, during World War II.

The inaugural season saw Sam Houston end with an even 2–2 record. That first team was comprised of just 19 students with the average player weighing in at just 135 pounds. Their leather helmets cost \$3 each and fully-padded pants of heavy canvas were \$12. Today, the Bearkat squad has 100 players with an average weight of over 200 pounds. And it cost about \$800 to outfit each player for game day.

This year's "Century Season" brings with it a legacy of big rivalries and even bigger accomplishments.

In October, Sam Houston State returned home victorious over Stephen F. Austin State University in the 90th edition of the Battle of the Piney Woods. This timeless rivalry between the Bearkats and the Lumberjacks began in 1923 and is one of the three oldest continuous rivalries in Texas college football.

Sam Houston has competed and won championships in four different leagues: the Texas Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Lone Star Conference, Gulf Star Conference and Southland Conference.

The team played its first bowl game, the Shrimp Bowl, in 1952. In 1964, our Bearkats were National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Co-National Champions.

Sam Houston State boasts six Southland Conference Championships, the most recent just last year.

Bearkat teams have made eight Football Championship Subdivision Playoff appearances, including trips to the National Championship Game in 2012 and 2013 and the National Semi-Finals in 2004 and 2014.

And, our Bearkats are also close to another major milestone—their 1000th game. With such an exciting first century, we can't wait to see what the next hundred years will bring. Eat 'Em Up, Kats!

HONORING THE POSTHUMOUS INDUCTION OF CLARK GOODWIN INTO THE JESSE HELMS CENTER FOUNDATION'S CHARLES A. CANNON FREE ENTERPRISE HALL OF FAME

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor H. Clark Goodwin for his posthumous induction into the Jesse Helms Center Foundation's Charles A. Cannon Free Enterprise Hall of Fame on November 17, 2015.

Clark Goodwin left a lasting legacy of service not only across Union County and North Carolina's 8th Congressional District, but across the entire state and nation. He was born and raised in Union County, attending Monroe High School and Wingate Junior College—Senator Jesse Helms' alma mater—before attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

After college, Clark began a career in banking that would last nearly 45 years and would see him become a leader in the industry. He began his career back in Union County, and eventually went to Albemarle where he became President of NC Federal Savings and Loan. Clark then returned to Union County in 1982 to start the Bank of Union.

Aside from his success in business, Clark always stepped up to help his community. He served as Chairman of the Monroe Economic Development Commission for 17 years and was recognized as the Monroe Chamber of Commerce Man of the Year in 2013 for his leadership and public service. Clark was a founding board member of the Jesse Helms Center Foundation, where he served for 25 years in various leadership roles. He also served on the Wingate University Board of Trustees for more than 45 years. In honor of his service, Wingate University awarded him

an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree in 2012.

Clark Goodwin symbolized everything the Jesse Helms Center Foundation stands for—free enterprise and principled leadership through education, public policy promotion and historical preservation. His work and philanthropic endeavors helped enrich the lives of countless folks across the 8th District, and for that we all owe Clark Goodwin a debt of gratitude. I can think of no one more deserving of a spot in the Free Enterprise Hall of Fame than Mr. Clark Goodwin.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Clark Goodwin for his posthumous induction into the Jesse Helms Center Foundation's Charles A. Cannon Free Enterprise Hall of Fame.

TOM HEINLY WINS PRINCIPAL OF  
THE YEAR

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tom Heinly, Head of School at The Honor Roll School in my hometown of Sugar Land, for being named K–12 Principal of the Year by Nobel Learning Communities, Inc (NCLI), the school's parent organization.

Mr. Heinly has served as Head of School of The Honor Roll School for two years. Before joining the team at Honor Roll, Tom spent 18 years in public elementary and middle schools. Throughout his career he has helped his students become leaders and carries out that same mission at The Honor Roll School. He continually demonstrates great leadership with his positive attitude and dedication to his students and colleagues. By fostering a community that works as a team, everybody achieves success. The Honor Roll School is lucky to have him.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Tom Heinly on winning Principal of the Year.

HONORING ERIC POLLARD

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eric Pollard, a true public servant whose leadership, loyalty, and dedication to his work has left an indelible mark on the Yonkers Public School System.

Teachers, administrators, coworkers and parents all have wonderful things to say about Eric and the job he has done as Head Custodian of the School 16 Annex, located at 759 North Broadway in Yonkers. His reputation precedes him, due to his work ethic and dedication to the school. Principal Cynthia Eisner has lauded Eric, saying, "he makes sure that everything is not only in working order, but it is in tip top shape." In addition to his custodial duties, Eric helps with arrivals and dismissals, serving as a de facto traffic officer, clearing the bus lanes of cars to ensure a smooth dismissal every day. The school's Assistant Principal, JoAnn DiMaria, has also praised Eric for

his "leadership, loyalty, and dedication of the highest caliber in association with his responsibilities as Head Custodian He supports and collaborates with custodial staff in the Main Building while consistently maintaining an immaculate environment where our children can learn."

A Yonkers resident himself, Eric resides with his wife, Lisa, and daughters Kamesha and Aaliyah in the district. He is one of six children born to Mildred and Claude Lee Sr. and has been a resident of Yonkers since 1967. He attended PS 8, graduated from Roosevelt High School, and has been employed the Board of Education as a custodian since 1992. Eric is Yonkers through and through, and he epitomizes the hard work and dedication the community is known for.

On November 17th Eric is being honored with the 2015 Civil Service Employee of the Year Award, hosted by the Exchange Club of Yonkers and the Yonkers Public School system. It is my pleasure to congratulate Eric on this wonderful honor, and thank him for his years of service to the community.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,653,507,360,573.44. We've added \$8,062,630,311,660.36 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LATE NAUSEAD LYVELLE STEWART, ESQ.

#### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of an extraordinary public servant, the late Nausead Lyvelle Stewart.

Nausead was born August 15, 1931 in Starkville, Mississippi to Tommy James Stewart and Rosa Rogers Stewart. Upon graduation from Oktibbeha County Training High School, she chose to attend Tougaloo College where she graduated with honors in History and Home Economics. Afterwards, she taught high school history for thirteen years in West Point, Mississippi, while acquiring her M.A. degree from Atlanta University.

Nausead entered the University of Mississippi School Of Law in 1967 and graduated with honors in May, 1970, where she was the first African American law student to serve on the law journal. In law school, she roomed with Constance Slaughter Harvey, who finished the law school a semester earlier, as the first African American female graduate.

Nausead contributed immensely to the legal profession and the pursuit of equal justice for all.

Upon graduation, she, along with her classmate Geraldine Harrington Carnes, was hired by the Lawyers Constitutional Defense Committee (LCDC) to assist the then director, Armand Derfner and Jim Lewis with civil rights litigation.

A year later, when LCDC closed its Mississippi Office, Nausead was hired to work across the street at Anderson, Banks, Nichols and Leventhal to assist with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) civil rights litigation. That work consisted primarily of dealing with the post desegregation discriminatory practices in teacher and administrator hiring and retention. Nausead played a primary role in assuring, through litigating several cases, that the "Uniform Singleton Decree" which provided for the utilization of objective non-racial standards in determining which education professionals would be retained should desegregation result in a loss of positions due to duplication. It also provided a first right of refusal for subsequent new openings to any professionals who were not rehired because of such duplication. Additionally, Nausead worked on other successful employment class actions against large employers in our state. A case law query will reveal some of the great work that she did during this era and continuing in to the 1980s.

In 1975, Nausead became a partner and the firm name was changed to Anderson, Banks, Nichols and Stewart.

Three years later, Nausead left the firm to assume the position as head of the Jackson Office for the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, thus completing the circle of having been a lawyer for the three foremost civil rights legal offices in the 1960s and 70s, the Lawyers Committee, NAACP LDF, and LCDC.

In the 1980s, the Lawyers Committee closed its Jackson Office, whereupon, Nausead joined the Walker and Walker firm in Jackson, headed by John L. Walker and William Walker, Jr. While working there, Nausead handled the firm's appellate work and motion practice and was a mentor for James E. Graves, Jr. and Regina Quinn who also worked there during her tenure. In 1982, Nausead offered her services to the citizens of Hinds County for the County Court Judge position thus becoming the first African American female judicial candidate.

After practicing law with the Walker and Walker firm for several years, Nausead assumed a position with Minact Inc. where she engaged in grant writing and compliance until her retirement.

On July 18, 2000 and during her retirement, Nausead served as a Jackson Civil Service Commissioner after having been appointed by Jackson Mayor Harvey Johnson and served until May 2, 2006.

Nausead took great pride in community services on numerous boards of community organizations and received awards for her work with those organizations. She was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. which she joined while at Tougaloo College.

Nausead was preceded in death by her aforementioned parents. She is survived by her sister, Doris Anderson; brother, and Thomas J. Stewart, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, on November 10, 2015, we lost a treasure in Nausead. I ask that my col-

leagues join me in recognizing a diligent advocate, a conscientious worker, and a selfless servant leader whose life was dedicated to the cause of humanity, Nausead Lyvelle Stewart.

#### HONORING PETER DIPAOLO

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend and a true community leader, Pelham Town Supervisor Peter DiPaola, who has served his community in elected office with distinction for close to 25 years.

A resident of Pelham Manor since 1952, Peter has always had a love affair with Pelham Manor and its residents. He attended Siwanoy Elementary School while his future wife attended Prospect Hill, beginning a family legacy in the Pelham Elementary School system that has lasted three generations.

In 1991, Peter began his life of public service as a member of the Pelham Manor Planning Board, and never looked back. To call Peter's career in elected office diverse or extensive would be an understatement. He served as Pelham Manor Trustee, with oversight for administration, planning, and finance; Fire Commissioner; Police Commissioner; Commissioner of Public Works; was elected Mayor of the Village of Pelham Manor in 2001; Town Councilman in 2004; and finally Pelham Town Supervisor in 2012, the role in which he currently still serves.

As Town Supervisor, Peter has worked diligently to maintain the beauty and charm that has defined Pelham for decades. In spite of state mandated tax caps, he has overseen a redesign and improvement of the Town Court, a renovation of Gazebo Park, an expansion of the offerings by the Pelham Recreation Department, as well as an improvement of town services and programs, all while staying under the 2 percent tax cap. He has also worked hard to obtain vital funding through local, state, and federal grants, some of which my office has helped procure, for initiatives ranging from Superstorm Sandy repairs to improvements to Trotta Park. Peter's ability to deliver the services Pelham's residents have come to expect from their local government, while exhibiting strict fiscal responsibility, has been masterful, and as Pelham's Congressman I have always counted myself fortunate to have such a wonderful partner in government.

Peter and I may not come from the same side of the aisle, but we have always had a great relationship, built on a foundation of mutual respect, while working together in the spirit of bipartisanship. As the American Legion Pelham Post 50 honors Peter at their annual Veterans Week Dinner Dance, I want to take a moment to honor him as well, and thank his wife, children, and grandchildren for sharing him with the entire community. There is no more fitting honoree than Peter, and he is most deserving of this recognition.

# HONORING THE DEDICATION OF BRITNEE FERGIN'S TO HER FAM- ILY

## HON. JOHN FLEMING

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the story of Britnee Fergins of Shreveport, Louisiana. Care of family is a powerful expression of our humanity, and Britnee has provided us a touching example through the care of her father and her son. She stepped up to answer the noble calling to serve as the caretaker for her father, Percy Sr., who is a ninety year old World War II veteran. Caring for a family member can be a very rewarding experience, but it can also be a very challenging one. This challenge is only magnified when a loved one is diagnosed with Alzheimer's, a devastating disease which strips individuals of their memory and lives, all while placing an exhausting amount of stress on their caretakers. Nevertheless Britnee has persevered in her love and care for her father, and has faithfully devoted her time and resources. However she is more than her father's caregiver, as she also is a dedicated mom to her spirited two year old son. Britnee is a hero both to her father and her son, an example of courage, and a role model of selfless dedication. Thank you, Britnee, for all that you have done and sacrificed on behalf of your family. I am proud to recognize your service during the National Caregiver Month, and I salute the thousands who do the same thing unheralded.

# IN HONOR OF THE LATE BRIGA- DIER GENERAL JAMES ABRA- HAM

## HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Brigadier General James M. Abraham who entered eternal life on November 8, 2015.

General Abraham's many achievements are a testament to patriotism and service above self. In his nearly ninety-three years on Earth, "General Jim" was a voice for change and a force for good in his local community, as a state leader, and in his national service.

James Abraham first answered the call to national service when he enlisted in the United States Army, proudly serving in the 3rd Army under General George S. Patton. Continuing his service over the next four decades in both the regular Army and the Army National Guard, General Abraham's career culminated with his posting as the Assistant Adjutant General for the State of the Ohio Army National Guard. Many times over he was recognized for his leadership skills and professionalism, receiving the Legion of Merit, four bronze stars, three Army Commendation Medals, the Normandy Medal, the French diploma of appreciation, and induction into the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame.

Yet General Abraham's contributions out of uniform are of similar distinction and remain worthy of recognition. Jim lived his life as an

innovator, facilitating new ways to do business in local government, holding numerous patents, and publishing three books. His keen intellect and thoughtful leadership style also served the citizens of Gahanna, Ohio when he took the reins as service safety director. To recognize his many years in local governance, the residents of Gahanna named their city hall in his honor as a fitting testament to his tireless efforts on their behalf.

A proud alumnus of Ohio University, General Abraham dedicated much of his time to supporting the Bobcat family. He is credited with successfully preventing the deactivation of the Ohio University ROTC program which continues to shape the future of our military. He also created new methods of instruction which have been applied to other universities across the nation. For his unwavering commitment to the university, its students, and higher education he was awarded an honorary doctorate in 2015. This capstone recognition served as his final public salute for his innumerable accomplishments and a life well lived.

I am proud to have known General Abraham as both a friend and colleague. Over the years, he advised countless public officials on veterans' issues, engineering ventures, and leadership in difficult times. He served as the chairman of my Service Academy Nomination Board as well as that of former Congressman John R. Kasich, helping select the best and brightest to carry our armed forces into the future. Lastly, his calm and steady demeanor has provided me immeasurable resolve in difficult times.

I am deeply saddened by the loss of my friend, the General. Though my words today fall short of the recognition he rightfully deserves, I believe his reputation and legacy across Central Ohio will remain examples for Ohioans, and carry on as a testimony to his exceptionalism. His spirit is best captured in one of his many inspirational exhortations that in our lives "Each plateau that is reached should only be the launching point for the next achievement." Our most fitting tribute is to live our lives accordingly, and continue to reach for higher goals.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I say farewell to General James M. Abraham, one of our finest neighbors. I am honored to pay tribute to him today.

# HONORING ANGELO MARTINELLI

## HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a leader in the Yonkers community, Angelo R. Martinelli, who for 20 years has led the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce as Chairman with great distinction and integrity.

Originally born in the Bronx in 1927, Angelo grew up in Mount Vernon, attending A.B. Davis High School. Following his graduation in 1945, he enlisted in the United States Army where he served until 1946 as a Sergeant.

After leaving the Army, Angelo returned home to work in his family's business, The Yonkers Daily Times, while swiftly moving to buy the Gazette Press in 1948. This shift, as well as meeting the love of his life, Carol

Madatto, led to the purchase of their first home in Yonkers in 1960, where Angelo still currently lives.

In 1974, Angelo ran and was elected Mayor of the City of Yonkers, serving from 1974–1979 and again from 1982–1987. He has earned a reputation as an effective and forceful advocate of municipal government interests, like seniors, anti-crime programs, and the reactivation of the Yonkers Police Athletic League. In 1983, with the closing of the PAL seeming imminent, Mayor Martinelli helped form a new Board of Directors, and today the PAL is a vibrant organization, with Angelo continuing to serve as its President since 1991. Angelo was the owner and Chairman of the Board of Gazette Press, Inc., and is currently Chairman of the Board for Today Media, Inc. From 1990 until May, 2012 he served as a director of Hudson Valley Bank.

In January 1984, Mercy College conferred upon him an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. In January 1995 he became Chairman of the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce, a position he still holds. In August 2015, HBO aired the miniseries, "Show Me a Hero," with Angelo, who was delighted to be portrayed by actor Jim Belushi.

But Angelo's passion was always his family. He and Carol, to whom he was married to and loved for 65 years, have six sons, Michael, Paul, Robert, Richard, Thomas and Ralph, and five daughters-in-laws, 12 grandchildren, and five great grandchildren. Angelo is an active parishioner of St. Eugene's Church, Yonkers.

This year, the Yonkers Chamber of Commerce is honoring Angelo at the 122nd Annual Business Hall of Fame Dinner, commemorating his 20 years of service as Chairman of the Board. I want to thank him for his incredible leadership and for helping to make Yonkers the great city it is today.

RICHARD LANDY

## HON. LEE M. ZELDIN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the service of Richard Landy.

On December 8, 1942, at the age of 18, Richard Landy stepped forward to serve his country during World War II. He was assigned to serve in one of the most dangerous units in the armed forces, the newly established Naval Armed Guard. This assignment placed men in constant danger and threat of attack while guarding the often ill equipped merchant and naval support ships. Armed only with machine and deck guns, these men were tasked to protect these ships, the lifeline of the war effort, from enemy submarines, surface raiders and aircraft.

During his time in service, Richard sailed on Landing Ship-Tank Class Landing Ships, such as the *Francis Drake* and *Duquesne*. His service began in the Mediterranean theatre during the Normandy Invasion, crossing the English Channel as his LST deployed American troops on Utah and Omaha Beaches as well as Free French Forces on Sword Beach. A signalman 2nd class, Richard served in three theaters of operation; the Mediterranean, the Pacific and Europe, receiving the Bronze Star Medal for

each. With the thanks of a grateful nation, Richard was honorably discharged on January 3, 1946.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT  
"BOB" LOQUACI

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Robert "Bob" Loquaci, who passed away on October 31, 2015 at the age of 92. Bob was an extraordinary person, and he will always be remembered as a man who lived his life with purpose and dedication to public service.

Robert "Bob" Loquaci was born in Madera, CA on June 1, 1923 to Urbano Loquaci and Eda Pistoressi Loquaci. He was born to be a farmer; he began farming grapes with his father as soon as he was old enough to help. Love came at a young age for Bob, who met the love of his life, Dora Karahadian, when they were both teenagers. Bob would go on to serve his nation by joining the U.S. Navy in the Pacific during the World War II. When Bob returned from his service, he married Dora. They were married for 70 years and together, they had two sons, David and Leslie, who have continued the family farming legacy.

Mr. Loquaci's passion for agriculture was passed on from his father at a young age. Throughout his life, he served his farming community in different leadership positions. Bob served both as a Founding Director and President of the Raisin Bargaining Association. Mr. Loquaci represented the domestic raisin industry by testifying in Washington D.C., where President Nixon later signed a law making imported raisins meet U.S. food Safety standards. Bob also traveled twice to Japan to open the market for U.S. raisins and to promote raisins sales. Bob also served as: founding Director of the California Association of Winegrape Growers (CAWG), Director of the Raisin Administrative Committee, was a Charter Member of the Nisei Farmers' League, and was an active member of the Western Growers Association, Madera Farm Bureau, and Madera Grange.

Bob was a strong supporter of his community and was dedicated to helping those around him. He co-founded the Madera Agriculture Youth Association (MAYA) to support agricultural endeavors of local youth. He was also generous; he was an annual supporter and buyer of the Madera Junior Livestock sale. He was extremely involved, including being a Charter and Lifetime Member of the Madera Elk's Club, a Director of the Madera County Fair Board, a Trustee of La Vina School Board, a Director of the Chamber of Commerce, a member of the VFW, and he was a member of other service clubs as well.

Bob lived his life to the fullest, surrounded by family and friends. His commitment to fam-

ily and to his community will forever live in the lives of the people he touched. Bob is survived by his loving wife, his two son's David and his wife, Joan and by Leslie and his wife, Laddyne, three grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. I am honored and humbled to join his family in celebrating the life of this amazing man, who will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a man of great service and dedication. His memory will live on through his family and be remembered by our entire community. We are all better for having known Mr. Robert "Bob" Loquaci, a remarkable Californian and Central Valley native.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on roll call nos. 626, 627, and 628, had I been present, I would have voted "Yes."

HONORING ANNIE OLIVER

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 17, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a leader in my district, from my hometown of the Bronx. To celebrate life for 100 years is a historic milestone, and it's my pleasure to speak about the centurion Annie Oliver.

Born on October 30th, 1915, Annie Ruth Still was originally from Birmingham, Alabama, and is the eldest of two sisters. Following her graduation from the esteemed Park High School in 1944, Annie made the move to New York City to begin work.

In the fateful year of 1957, Annie made two life changing decisions, marrying her husband George Oliver, to whom they would share a lifetime of happiness with two sons, Will Jr. and Floyd, and joining the Church on The Hill AME Zion of New York City.

It was here she began her 58 year tenure of service to her community and love of God. During her outstanding service, Annie Oliver served as President of the Stewardess Board for 26 years, President of the User Board, President of Class Number 1, and currently serving in capacity as "Mother of the Church". She also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for The Church on the Hill and is the longest serving member of their congregation.

After marrying husband George, the family moved to the Bronx, where she still currently resides. Annie began working at Made in America, a 40 year tenure and then an additional 25 years serving at Emerson Radio&TV,

and the Beral Motor Company. She lives, loves, and always worked in the Bronx. She is beloved by her family, including 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

This year, on Friday, October 30th, 2015, her family, church family, and friends will be celebrating Mother Annie Oliver's 100th birthday milestone. I wish her the happiest of birthdays and congratulations on this remarkable milestone and on her incredible life.

FAIRNESS TO VETERANS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT  
ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in opposition to H.R. 1694, the Fairness to Veterans for Infrastructure Investment Act of 2015.

As the Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies and the co-chair of the Military Family Caucus, I strongly support efforts to ensure veterans have access to opportunities needed to become successful in the workforce.

Simply, H.R. 1694 makes veterans compete against women- and minority-owned small businesses for an already small goal of ten percent of federal highway and transit construction contracts.

While I agree with the sponsor's stated goal of helping veterans and veteran-owned businesses, I do not believe that the best way to do so is by legally undermining the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program.

Instead, we should help both veterans and disadvantaged businesses succeed.

That is why I joined Representatives CUMMINGS, NORTON, BROWN, and BUSTOS in sponsoring H.R. 3997, which would create a Veteran-owned Business Enterprise (VBE) program within the Department of Transportation with a stated national goal of ensuring at least 10 percent of federal highway contracts go to veteran-owned small businesses.

Instead, creating a specific and separate contracting goal for veteran-owned businesses is a better way to maximize assistance to veterans, as opposed to forcing competition between these two constituencies, both of whom continue to suffer through disproportionately high unemployment rates.

I urge my colleagues to help veteran-owned businesses compete for Department of Transportation contracts without harming the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program by supporting H.R. 3997 and not H.R. 1694.